What is claimed is:

1. A method for increasing the crystallization temperature of an iron based glass alloy comprising:

(a) supplying an iron based glass alloy wherein said alloy has a melting temperature and crystallization temperature;

(b) adding to said iron based glass alloy a lanthanide element;

(c) increasing said crystallization temperature by addition of said lanthanide element.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said melting temperature of said iron based glass alloy prior to addition of said lanthanide element is substantially the same as to the melting point of the alloy subsequent to addition of said lanthanide element.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of said lanthanide element added to said iron based glass alloy is in the range of 0.10 atomic % to 50.0 atomic %.\

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of said lanthanide element added to said iron based glass alloy is in the range of 1.0 atomic % to 10.0 atomic %.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said lanthanide element is selected from the Lanthanide series consisting of cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, lutetium, lanthanum, and mixtures thereof.

6. A method for increasing a crystallization onset temperature of an iron based alloy comprising:

supplying an iron based alloy comprising 30-90 atomic percent iron, said alloy having a crystallization temperature less than 675°C;

addition to said iron based alloy a lanthanide element;

increasing said crystallization onset temperature above 675°C by the addition of said lanthanide element.